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DETERMINE FOR

As originally built, the Matthew Jones House was a one-story, gable roof twelling with a central two-story enclosed porch, and a one-story lean-to attached to the rear. The main part of the house however, was raised to two stories in the late-nink penth century, using bricks from an outbuilding. The fine brickwork of the original portion of the house is laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers above the watertable, and with English bond below. Noteworthy exterior architectural features include the arched front door and the massive exterior end chimneys. The upper portion of the chimneys are composed of unattached square twin stacks joined at the caps.

The floor plan of the house consists of the porch chamber, a central stair hall and two chambers on either side of the hall. Unfortunately, little, if any, of the original interior woodwork survives, the interior having been substantially altered when the second story was added. The rear lean-to gives every indication of being part of the original fabric.

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Previously known as 'Bourbon' and 'Brick House Farm', the Matthew Jones House derives its name from an inscription over the doorway of the original kitchen which said 'Matthew Jones 1727'. When the kitchen was demolished in 1893 to provide brick for the remodelling of the main house this inscription was lost. At that time the current owners placed the same inscription on the house itself. Whether the original inscription did indeed indicate the date the building was erected, or whether it simply indicated the date of the kitchen, or even Matthew Jones' death (for that is the year that one Matthew Jones died) is conjecture.

It has been suggested by at least one expert that the chimneys of the Jones House are of late-seventeenth century origin and belonged to an earlier frame structure; the present brick being erected between the chimneys in the early-eighteenth century.

Despite its rather shadowy history, the Matthew Jones House is one of the finest of the handful of Medieval style Virginia houses extant. Its design reflects that of the small English manor house of a hundred years earlier. Even in its present altered form the Matthew Jones House is of high architectural significance and rarity.

9. CORTIFICATION

Dorothy E. Ellesin, Calder C. Loth Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
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6. Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory 1959

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Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
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